

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-20 EB-08 COME-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /103 W
-----082223 231247Z /53

R 230630Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2231
INFO AMCONSUL DURBAN
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

UNCLAS PRETORIA 4915

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PGOV, PINTN SF
SUBJECT: MINISTER OF DEFENSE GIVES SA "SURVIVAL PLAN"

1. AUGUST 22 PRESS REPORTED P.W. BOTHA, MINISTER OF DEFENSE, KEYNOTE ADDRESS TO CAPE PROVINCE NATIONALIST PARTY CONGRESS. BOTHA WAS KEYNOTER AS NATIONALIST'S CAPE LEADER. ACCORDING TO DISPATCHES, BOTHA SPELLED OUT EIGHT AIMS WHICH WOULD GUIDE THE GOVERNMENT'S FUTURE ACTIONS.

2. THE EIGHT GOALS FOR SURVIVAL AS REPORTED IN THE RAND DAILY MAIL WERE: THE ESTABLISHMENT AND DEVELOPMENT OF A STABLE CONSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK; AN EFFECTIVE DECISION-MAKING PROCESS WITH ABILITY TO IMPLEMENT DECISIONS; POSITIVE STEPS, INCLUDING HEALTHY RACE RELATIONS, RECOGNITION OF HUMAN DIGNITY AND THE RIGHT OF SELF DETERMINATION, TO PREVENT REVOLUTION; A MUTUAL POLICY WITH NEIGHBORING STATES OF NON-INTERFERENCE IN EACH OTHER'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS; ECONOMIC STABILITY THROUGH WORK, SAVING, AND "THE ECONOMIC PATRIOTISM OF ALL"; A STRONG ARMY AND INTERNAL SECURITY SYSTEM TO BE STAFFED BY ALL RACES; INTERDEPARTMENTAL GOVERNMENT
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COOPERATION; AND COOPERATION BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

3. BOTHA WAS ALSO REPORTED TO HAVE STRESSED THE NEED FOR COMING TO TERMS WITH SOUTH AFRICAN BLACKS, BUT NOT TO THE POINT OF ACCEPTING MAJORITY RULE. HIS SPEECH, AS DESCRIBED IN THE MAIL, CALLED FOR MUTUAL RECOGNITION

BY ALL RACES OF EACH RACE'S RIGHTS. HE IS QUOTED AS SAYING,
"THESE ARE OUR AIMS, HERE IS OUR VISION AND OUR SURVIVAL
PLAN. LET US DO OUR DUTY...".

4. IN AN APPARENT OBLIQUE REFERENCE TO FRACTIOUS DEBATES IN
LAST WEEK'S NATAL PARTY CONFERENCE, BOTHA IS SAID TO HAVE CALLED
ON ALL WHO WHICH TO CHANGE THE NATIONAL PARTY TO DO SO FROM
WITHIN ITS RANKS.

5. ANOTHER PART OF HIS SPEECH DEALT WITH THE
CROSSROADS SQUATTER CAMP NEAR CAPE TOWN (PRETORIA 4760).
BOTHA ALLEGEDLY STATED THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS NO
INTENTION OF BEING DERELICT IN ITS DUTY TO REMOVE
UNDESIRABLE CONDITIONS. HE REPORTEDLY EMPHASIZED THAT WARNINGS
FROM CHURCH GROUPS AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS
SEEKING TO DISSUADE THE GOVERNMENT BY WARNING AGAINST
OUTSIDE REACTION WOULD NOT SUCCEED.
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